

## Message Text

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62  
ORIGIN NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00

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R 280132Z SEP 74  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
USLO PEKING  
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
AMEMBASSY DACCA  
AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 214587

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PBOR, US, IN, CH  
SUBJECT: US MAPS OF SINO-INDIAN BORDER

REF: STATE 142936

1. AS ACTION POSTS AWARE, DEPARTMENT IS REVIEWING  
THE GENERAL QUESTION OF DEMARCATON ON USG MAPS OF THE  
SINO-INDIAN BORDER IN THE AKSAI CHIN REGION (REFTEL).  
EXCEPT FOR THE VERY SPECIAL CASE OF ISRAEL, USG  
PRACTICE IS TO SHOW DE-FACTO "LINE OF CONTROL" BORDERS  
RATHER THAN CONFLICTING CLAIMS. OUR PRESENT TREATMENT  
OF AKSAI CHIN IS EXCEPTIONAL AND LEAVES US OPEN TO  
PROBABLE PROTESTS FROM PRC. WE ARE, THEREFORE,  
CONSIDERING THE OPTION OF SHOWING THE ACTUAL "LINE OF  
CONTROL" BOUNDARY IN THE AKSAI CHIN AREA, WITH THE  
NOTATION THAT BOUNDARY IS IN DISPUTE.

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2. WE WOULD ANTICIPATE NEGATIVE REACTION FROM INDIA AS RESULT OF THIS "LOSS" OF INDIAN TERRITORY ON USG MAPS. INDIAN REACTION, HOWEVER, MIGHT BE MITIGATED BY OTHER CONCURRENT USG CARTOGRAPHIC CHANGES IN HER FAVOR: (1) FOLLOWING RECENT GOI-GOP AGREEMENT, INTERNATIONAL BORDERS AND SEPARATE IDENTIFICATION OF FORMER PORTUGUESE AREAS IN INDIA WOULD NOW BE ELIMINATED; AND (2) FOLLOWING RECENT CHANGE IN INDO-SIKKIM RELATIONSHIP, DOTTED BORDER AND SEPARATE IDENTIFICATION OF SIKKIM MIGHT RPT MIGHT ALSO BE ELIMINATED.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE VIEWS OF NEW DELHI, PEKING AND HONG KONG ON POSSIBLE CHANGES OUTLINED ABOVE.

4. FOR NEW DELHI: WE ARE RESEARCHING STATUS OF ASSURANCES REPORTEDLY GIVEN INDIA IN 1969 RE USG TREATMENT OF AKSAI CHIN AND MENTIONED IN SCHNEIDER/KUX SEPTEMBER 12 LETTER.

5. CHANGES IN USG MAPS WOULD NOT RPT NOT APPEAR UNTIL AFTER SECRETARY'S VISIT TO NEW DELHI IN OCTOBER. KISSINGER

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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**TAGS:** PBOR, CH, IN, US  
**To:** HONG KONG  
NEW DELHI  
USLO PEKING INFO DACCA  
ISLAMABAD  
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